

# Hints From the

## 1. Watch Your Cap!



Doc Kennedy drove into the Model Garage a couple of weeks ago and yelled for Stan Hicks to fill up his tank. Next day Doc turned up again, and accused Stan of forgetting to put the cap on the tank. Perhaps Stan did. Anyway, it

was lost beyond doubt. W. Van Sandt, Long Branch, N. J., thinks grease monkeys like Stan would be less likely to overlook the cap if it were painted bright yellow for contrast. A good idea for the oil filler cap, too.

## 2. Vary the Voltage by Hand.

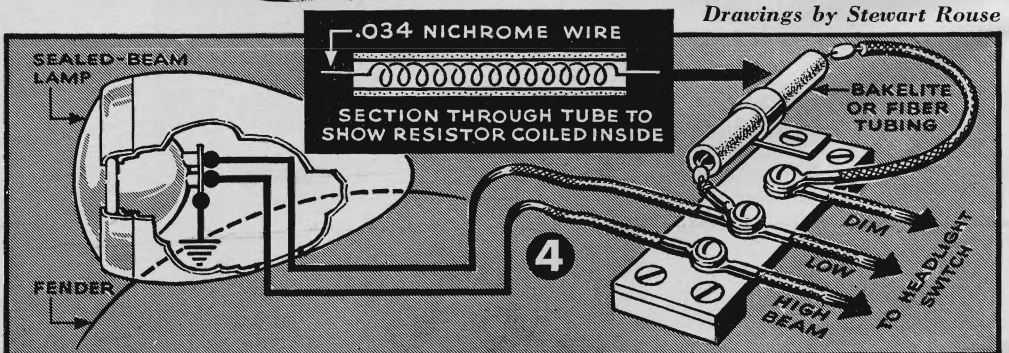
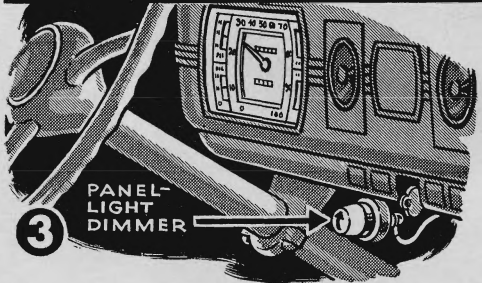
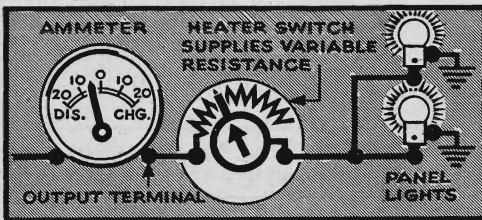
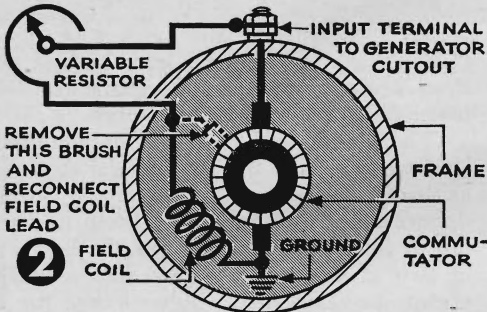
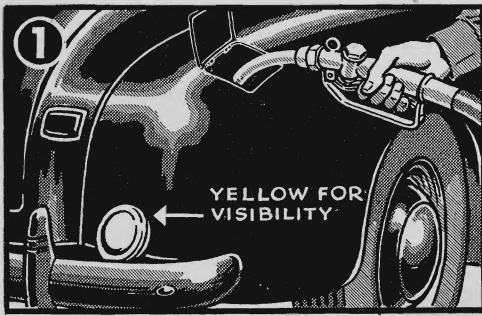
When extra electrical accessories are installed, a problem always arises if the car lacks an automatic voltage control. If the generator is set to carry the extra load, it's apt to overcharge the battery when the load is off. As a solution, K. C. Anderson, Ames, Iowa, installed a manually operated field resistor rated at 100 watts, 5 ohms. The resistor was placed on the dash, and generator output can now be varied while driving.

**3. Less Light on the Dash.** If your car doesn't have a dash-light dimmer, a variable resistance switch from an old car heater will let you adjust the brilliance of the instrument-panel lights. J. R. Sisley, Seattle, makes the suggestion.

## 4. Parking Lamp Improvised.

While installing several sealed-beam adapters, Henry J. Stauff, of Woodside, N. Y., found that the low beam could be dimmed for use as a parking lamp by placing a 1-ohm

*Drawings by Stewart Rouse*



# Model Garage

resistor across the dim and low beam connections from the light switch. He used .034" Nichrome ⑦ wire to make resistors.

**5. X Marks the Puncture.** In a tire shop where he once worked, writes Fred C. Daley, of Oklahoma City, an indelible pencil was used to mark tube punctures, two lines being crossed at the pinhole. Then, after the tube was buffed for patching, the ends of the lines pointed toward the pinhole.

**6. Aluminum Dresses Up Car.** One reader has replaced scuffed and broken inside panels with sheet-aluminum ones, using sheet-metal screws. A little buffing gives a chromelike appearance.

**7. Emergency Fuel Pump.** If you believe in preparing for trouble before it occurs, here's an idea. Should your fuel pump go bad, a spare gas-tank cap with an inner-tube valve soldered to a hole drilled in its center will enable you to pump enough gas to the carburetor to reach a repair shop. Just a few strokes are enough for several miles, according to H. W. Mills, of Albion, Ill., who has found the idea practical.

**8. Bracket Steadies Battery.** Vibration, the enemy of any car battery, can be lessened in under-hood installations by bolting a strap-iron bracket to the fender apron and the battery hold-down bolt. The idea comes from Glenn A. Wagner, of Delmar, N. Y.

*Gus Wilson*

